

Report of the Acting Director of the RCARO

The report of the Acting Director of the RCARO is herewith submitted to the NRM for consideration of the National RCA Representatives.

The Report contains information related to

1. RCARO Work Performance for 2012 in table
2. A description of the Progress made in 2012 under the topics of
 - Increasing the RCA's awareness
 - Successful implementation of RCA/UNDP project on nuclear imaging technology
 - Promoting partnerships for RCA
 - Preservation of nuclear knowledge
 - Increased interaction between Member States and RCARO
 - EB Contribution
3. RCARO Work Plan for 2013 in table
4. A description of the Work Plan for 2013 under the topics of
 - Increasing the awareness of RCA
 - Implementation of RCA/UNDP Partnership Project on nuclear imaging technology
 - Implementation of RCA/UNDP Partnership Project on electron beam applications
 - Preservation of nuclear knowledge
 - Increased interaction between Member States and RCARO

Proposed Action

The NRM may take note of the Report and approve the Work Plan for 2013 subject to any amendments.

RCARO 2012 Work Performance

	Target	Activities	Milestone				Performance Indicators	Status
			QT1	QT2	QT3	QT4		
1	Increasing the awareness of RCA	1.1 Publicity activities for increasing RCA's awareness					1.1.1 Publication of the 5 th round of RCA Success stories and preparation of its 6 th round	Done -Distributed 1 booklet and 2 leaflets at the 41 st GCM
							1.1.2 Updating promotional video on RCA activities	Done -Updated with the new NRs and included Nepal, a new Member State
		1.2 Enhanced RCA information service through the RCA website					1.2.1 Updating data on RCA and RCA projects	Done -Uploaded the information on RCA meetings and projects
							1.2.2 Updating data on RCA stakeholders/end-users by Member States	Done -Updated the data of the MSs; AUL, MYA, SIN, PAK, THA
		1.3 Participation in the regional/international events and support for the promotion of RCA activities					1.3.1 Presentation and exhibition on RCA/RCARO activities to target audiences	Done -Participated in the three regional/international events
							1.3.2 Supporting of the RCA experts for increasing awareness and promotion of RCA	Done -Supported an RCA expert in the publication of Success Stories
							1.3.3 Preparation and participation in the exhibition of the 40 th Anniversary of RCA	Done -Participated in the exhibition during the 34 th NRM and the 56 th IAEA GC

2	Implementation of RCA/UNDP partnership project on nuclear imaging technology	2.1 Reporting to the 34 th NRM				2.1.1 Reporting of the achievements and outputs of the RCA/UNDP project	Done -Reported at the 34 th NRM
		2.2 Conducting the basic and on-site regional training course on SPECT/PET				2.2.1 Holding of the training courses for enhancement of basic capacity of SPECT/PET imaging science and technology	Done -Two training courses were held from 26 June to 6 July 2012 at various hospitals in Korea with 19 participants.
		2.3 Monitoring and submission of progress report				2.3.1 Preparation and submission of the progress report and financial report to UNDP and UNOPS.	Done -Duly submitted the interim and annual progress reports and financial reports to UNDP and UNOPS
		2.4 Annual review meeting and evaluation of the project				2.4.1 Hosting an annual review meeting to review and evaluate the performance of the project and discuss work plan for 2013	Done -Held on 7-8 November 21012in the Philippines
3	Promoting partnerships for RCA	3.1 Application of RCA/UNDP partnership project on “Electron Beam Applications”				3.1.1 Modifying and submitting the project proposal to UNDP which was done in 2011 in consultation with the experts	Done -Submitted a modified proposal to UNDP and selected as a new partnership project
4	Preservation of nuclear knowledge	4.1 RCARO/KAIST Nuclear Engineering Master’s Degree Course				4.1.1 Holding of the RCARO/KAIST Master’s Degree Course	Done -Supported 3 students from MAL and INS for the course
		4.2 Support to the RCARO/ ARCCNM training course				4.2.1 Holding of the RCARO/ARCCNM training course	Done -Held on 24-27 October in Korea and supported 25 trainees

		4.3 RCARO/KAERI regional Training workshop					4.3.1 Implementation of the RCARO/KAERI regional training workshop	Done -A workshop on the radiation application technology was held on 8-19 October with 14 participants.
Increased interaction between Member States and RCARO	5.1 Increased participation of Member States in RCARO activities						5.1.1 Inviting 3-4 temporary staff from the Member States to RCARO	Done -3 temporary staff were invited from MYA, THA and VIE.
	5.2 Participation in RCA policy meetings						5.2.1 Participation in the 34 th NRM, 41 st GCM and relevant meetings	Done -Attended 34 th NRM and 41 st GCM
	5.3 Participation in the FNCA Coordinators Meeting						5.3.1 Participation in the 13 th FNCA Coordinators Meeting	Done -Participated in the meeting on 7-9 March in Fukui, Japan and the result was reported at the 34 th NRM
	5.4 Holding of an expert workshop on enhancing strategic goals of RCARO						5.4.1 Holding of an expert workshop on enhancing strategic goals of RCARO	Done -Held on 10-12 July in Jeju, Korea with 25 participants including SAC members, NRs and RCA experts. -The result was reported at the 41 st GCM.
	5.5 Extra-budgetary contribution of RCARO to the IAEA						5.5.1 EB contribution of RCARO to the IAEA	Done (US\$50,000, RAS/7/021) -RAS/7/021: Marine benchmark study on the possible impact of the Fukushima radioactive releases in the Asia-Pacific Region

RCARO 2012 Work Performance

1. Increasing the awareness of RCA

1.1 Publicity activities for increasing RCA's awareness

1.1.1 Publication of the 5th round of RCA Success Stories

Pursuant to the decision of the 34th NRM, RCARO received comments on the draft of the RCA Success Stories from the Member States by 31 May 2012 as follows:

2 leaflets for

- Novel Applications of Food Irradiation Technology for Improving Socio-economic Development (RAS/5/046)
- Sustainability of Regional Radiation Protection Infrastructures (RAS/9/042)

1 booklet for

- Establishing a Benchmark for Assessing the Radiological Impact of Nuclear Power Activities on the Marine Environment in the Asia Pacific Region (RAS/7/016)

Reflecting the comments received from the Member States including AUL and INS, the three Success Stories have been refined and published and also uploaded on the RCA website.

The final version of Success Stories was distributed at the 41st GCM and during the exhibition of the 40th anniversary of RCA during the 56th IAEA GC. With 500 copies distributed to the RCA Member States for local distribution, they were also handed out at the regional and international events which RCARO attended.

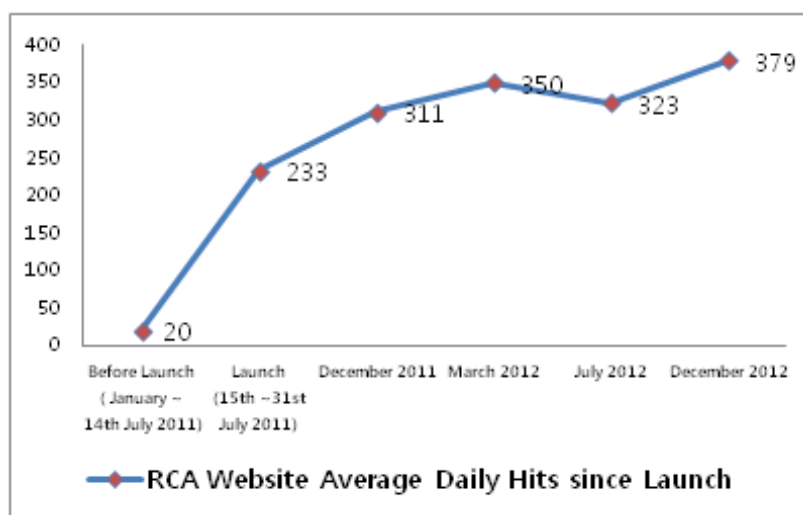
1.1.2 Updating promotional video on RCA activities

An RCA promotional video was updated and uploaded on the RCA website featuring the replacement of NRs of AUL, SIN and PAK and the admission of Nepal to the RCA. It will continue to be updated and uploaded on the RCA website to promote RCA and its activities.

1.2 Enhanced RCA information service through the RCA Website

1.2.1 Updating data on RCA and RCA projects

Recognizing the notable increase of daily hits of the RCA website, RCARO has been maintaining and updating the RCA website with information on RCA and its activities: policy meetings (NRM, GCM), projects and news for the Member States. As suggested by AUL, RCARO also uploaded the posters of the 40th Anniversary of RCA exhibition at the 34th NRM on the RCA website for public access (<http://www.rcaro.org/thematic>). In addition, materials of the 40th anniversary of RCA exhibition and panel discussion during the 56th IAEA GC were also uploaded on the RCA website for Member States and public.



As shown in the graph above, there were around 300 visitors per day since its launch.

1.2.2 Updating data on RCA stakeholders and end-users by the Member States

With the assistance of temporary staff, RCARO updated the data of the Member States including AUL, MYA, SIN, PAK, THA and other stakeholders on the RCA website.

1.3 Participation in the regional/international events and support for the promotion of RCA activities

RCARO has made its efforts to promote RCA and its activities to target audiences in order to enhance awareness of RCA in the beneficial application of nuclear science and technology and further build partnerships with the regional and international organizations.

1.3.1. Presentation and exhibition on RCA/RCARO activities to target audiences

RCARO participated in the following regional and international conferences:

- Pacific Basin Nuclear Conference, 18-23 March 2012, Busan, Korea
- The 13th Annual Australasian Tissue and Biotherapeutics Forum (ATBF), 14th International Asia Pacific Association of Surgical Tissue Bankging (APASTB) & International Society of Cellular Therapy (ISCT), Australian Regional Combined Scientific Meeting, 28 May - 1 June 2012, Sydney, Australia
- UNDP Global South-South Expo, 19-23 November 2012, Vienna, Austria

RCARO was not able to participate in the American Society of Nuclear Medicine Annual Meeting (9-13 June, Miami, USA) and East Asian Seas (EAS) Congress (9-13 July, Chang Won, Korea) due to lack of booth space and duplicated schedule with the RCARO workshop, which was duly reported to the SAC Members. RCARO could not attend the 3rd International Symposium on Radiopharmaceutical Therapy held 25-29 November in Levi, Finland because of a tight schedule of the UNDP Global South-South Expo which was held on 19-23 November. The RCA Success Stories and the promotional video were used for promotional purposes on these occasions. Through participating in the aforementioned conferences, RCARO was able to publicize RCA and network with the related experts not only within the RCA region but also outside the RCA region.

1.3.2. Supporting of the RCA experts for increasing the awareness and promotion of RCA

RCARO supported an RCA expert in the publication of the 5th batch of RCA Success Stories.

1.3.3. Preparation and participation in the exhibition of the 40th Anniversary of RCA

RCARO took part in the exhibition of the 40th RCA anniversary during the 34th NRM by producing a panel on Overall RCA and during the 56th IAEA GC by organizing overall preparation of the exhibition: developing panels; collecting sample products; and establishing exhibition booth with the support of the RCA chair, MSs and RCA FP.

2. Implementation of RCA/UNDP partnership project on nuclear imaging technology

Following the successful implementation in 2011, RCARO carried out the RCA/UNDP partnership project on “Accelerating Nuclear SPECT/PET Imaging Technologies in the Region”.

2.1 Reporting to the 34th NRM

As requested by the 13th SAC, RCARO reported on the progress of the project implementation in terms of the scope, activities undertaken, and project result analysis at the 34th NRM.

2.2 Conducting the basic and on-site regional training course on SPECT/PET

According to the work plan, RCARO held the basic training course on SPECT/PET (train-the-trainers) for one week and on-site training course for two weeks consecutively from 26 June to 6 July 2012 in Seoul, Korea in cooperation with the LCC. A total of 19 participants from 10 participating Member States were trained with more advanced topics on Nuclear Imaging Technologies as well as attended extended practical training course, reflecting comments from participants of 2011 training courses. The lecture materials are available on the RCA website (<http://www.rcaro.org/undp2010>) for participants' further use and reference.

2.3 Monitoring and submission of the progress report

The participants, in a survey conducted by RCARO after the training courses, were very satisfied with the training courses in terms of information sharing, quality and content of lectures, and especially with the on-site training course which provided participants with the opportunity to apply the gained knowledge and technologies on site.

National reports were duly collected from the NPCs. Based on their reports, the interim and annual progress report and financial report were submitted to the UNDP and United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) accordingly.

2.4 Annual review meeting and evaluating of the project

The annual review meeting was held on 7-8 November in Cebu, Philippines, with 18 participants. Among them were the LCC, NPCs, related experts, staff members of the Philippines Nuclear Research Institute and RCARO.

At the meeting, NPCs and experts made presentations on their national achievements and outcomes of the project in 2012, work plan for 2013 and expected outcomes of each participating Member State.

As in 2012, the meeting decided to hold the regional training courses for three weeks consecutively from 17 June to 5 July 2013 in Korea. ARCCNM agreed to provide lectures during the course. The meeting was evaluated by the participants as a good opportunity to review the project progress comprehensively and share the opinions and experiences. It also noted that the project has been successfully implemented according to the work plan.

3. Promoting partnerships for RCA

3.1 Application of RCA/UNDP partnership project on “Electron Beam Applications”

RCARO has continued to develop a project in partnership with UNDP as a major activity of its mandate.

Upon the call for proposals by UNDP in May, RCARO had prepared a revised and supplemented draft proposal, including electron beam application on food irradiation which is one of the priority areas for the developing countries, in consultation with the RCA experts.

Reflecting the opinions of the RCARO SAC members and the Member States, the final proposal was submitted to UNDP on 20 June 2012.

16 Member States expressed their intention to participate in the concerned project: AUL, CPR, IND, INS, MAL, MON, MYA, NZE, PAK, PHI, SIN, SRL, THA, VIE including Nepal which newly joined RCA and Cambodia which is not RCA Member State yet but as the least developed country required by UNDP.

The proposal was selected as a new RCA/UNDP project. As requested by UNDP, RCARO submitted a detailed work plan for further arrangement for signing the contract.

4. Preservation of Nuclear Knowledge

4.1 RCARO/KAIST Nuclear Engineering Master’s Degree Course

RCARO supported 3 students in 2012: two students from Malaysia are attending the second year of the course and one from INS will attend the spring semester this year.

4.2 RCARO/ARCCNM training course

It was held on 24-27 October in Korea in association with the Korean Society of Nuclear Medicine and RCARO supported 25 trainees for the training course.

4.3 RCARO/KAERI regional training workshop

With the support of NRs of 12 Member States for nominating participants of the workshop, RCARO hosted a regional training workshop for 14 participants from 11 Member States on radiation application technology from 8 to 19 October in Daejeon, Republic of Korea. It was carried out in cooperation with the Korea Atomic Energy Research Institute (KAERI).

5. Increased interaction between Member States and RCARO

5.1 Increased participation of Member States in RCARO activities

Recommended by the NRs for the RCARO Fellowship Programme, the three persons from MYA, THA and VIE were selected in 2012. They contributed to implementing the RCA/UNDP partnership project on nuclear imaging technology and investigating possible regional/international events for promotional uses.

5.2. Participation in RCA policy meetings

RCARO participated in the RCA policy meetings, i.e. the 34thNRM in China and the 41stGCM in Vienna. The director and acting director of RCARO made presentations on its activities. In addition, RCARO served as the secretariat for the SAC meetings.

5.3 Participation in the 13th FNCA Coordinators Meeting

On behalf of RCA, Dir-RCARO participated in the meeting on 7-9 March in Fukui, Japan and delivered a presentation on RCA and its activities. The result was reported at the 34thNRM.

5.4 Holding of an expert workshop on enhancing strategic goals of RCARO

With a view to enhancing strategic goals of RCARO, RCARO organized a workshop inviting SAC members, NRs and RCA experts. Recommended by the 34thNRM, RCARO submitted a detailed plan for the RCARO Strategic Workshop to the members of the SAC on 16 May 2012.

With the positive responses from the SAC members, the Workshop on “Enhancing Strategic Goals of RCARO” was held in Jeju, Republic of Korea on 10-12 July 2012. The total number of participants was 25, and the workshop was conducted in the following three sessions:

- Session 1: Review and Evaluation of RCARO Activities
- Session 2: Future Directions to contribute to the Sustainable Development of RCA
- Session 3: Discussion on Current Issues such as Coordination of the Thematic Areas for the RCA Projects and Preparation of the RCA 40th Anniversary Exhibition

The report of the Workshop was uploaded on the RCA website for the reference of the participants and the Member States and attached in Annex 1 as well.

RCARO also reported the result of the workshop at the 41stGCM and the GCM decided to further discuss during the 35thNRM in 2013 due to the limited time.

5.5 Extra-budgetary contribution of RCARO to the IAEA

RCARO contributed Extra-Budget (EB) of US\$50,000 for the RCA foot note-a project RAS/7/021 on “Marine benchmark study on the possible impact of the Fukushima radioactive releases in the Asia-Pacific Region” for project implementation.

Annex 1



REPORT

RCARO Workshop on Enhancing Strategic Goals of RCARO

10-12 July 2012

Jeju, Korea

RCA Regional Office

1. Introduction

As agreed at the 34th National RCA Representatives Meeting (NRM) held on 17-20 April 2012 in Beijing, China, the RCARO Workshop on “Enhancing Strategic Goals of RCARO” was held on 10-12 July 2012 at the Ramada Hotel, Jeju, Republic of Korea. Participants included: the SAC members from CPR, INS and ROK; NRs of Bangladesh, Mongolia; four (4) experts from RCA Member States (MSs); and 10 representatives from ROK, including representatives from the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology (MEST), the Korean Nuclear International Cooperation Foundation (KNICOF) as well as a number of Korean Institutes and Organisations and RCARO. A list of the participants is given in Annex 1. (Note: all annexes referred to hereafter are posted on the RCA website www.rcaro.org).

This Workshop was the fifth of its kind organized by RCARO, since the first one in 2005.

2. Opening Session

2.1 Welcome Remarks by Dr. Mun-Ki Lee, Director, RCARO

Dr. Mun-Ki Lee, Dir-RCARO, warmly welcomed all the participants and thanked them for attending the Workshop in spite of their busy schedules. He emphasized that the purpose of the Workshop was to review and evaluate the strategic goals of the RCARO for its sustainable development in the medium and long term. He also noted that the conclusions and recommendations from this Workshop would assist in further strengthening the operations of the RCARO. The Opening Remarks by the Dir-RCARO are given as Annex 2.

2.2 Congratulatory Remarks by Mr. Kyung-Won Roh, Director General, MEST

On behalf of the Government of Republic of Korea, Mr. Kyung-Won ROH gave congratulatory remarks and welcomed the participants. (Annex 3)

He noted that the RCA was perceived as having the best practices as well as the international benchmark for regional cooperative agreements, among other regional agreements. This status had been achieved through valuable cooperation among MSs, IAEA and RCARO. He commented that the successful operation performance of the RCARO together with the great demand from the MSs for measures to retain and use nuclear science and technology in the region, could enable the RCARO to take on more initiatives to assist the RCA, such as, project planning, project management and project evaluation. Further he noted that the Government of the Republic of Korea, as its host country, would consider financial support of this if needed. He thanked those who had been involved in the preparation of the Workshop and wished that the Workshop would be a great success.

2.3 Remarks by Dr. Dongxin Feng, RCA Chair

On behalf of the RCA MSs, Dr. Dongxin Feng, current RCA Chair, welcomed all the participants

attending the Workshop.(Annex 4) Dr. Feng expressed her sincere congratulation at the opening of the workshop and extended her warm welcome to all the participants. She valued the activities that RCARO carried out in the past years and underlined the objectives of the workshop. She anticipated that the participants are at liberty to say what they like and hence to reach the goals of the workshop. She thanked the RCARO's efforts in organizing the meeting and wished the workshop a great success.

2.4 Introduction to the Workshop

Mr. In-Seok Oh, Head, Programme Division, RCARO, briefed the Workshop and reviewed the agenda items.

The Workshop was informed that Session Chairs would be:

- Session 1 - Mr. Anhar Riza Antariksawan
- Session 2 - Dr. Prinath Dias, and
- Session 3 - Dr. Dongxin Feng.

Ms. Hyunkyoun Jeon and Ms. Soo Youn Hwang agreed to serve as rapporteurs.

The Workshop Prospectus and Programme are given in Annexes 5 and 6.

3. Session 1 – Review and Evaluation of RCARO Activities

Mr. Anhar Riza Antariksawan chaired this Session.

During the discussions there was a general appreciation of the successful implementation by the RCARO of the various areas under its mandate. In particular, these included promotional activities such as: publication of RCA Success Stories and RCA brochures; establishing the RCA database and website; producing the RCA Promotional Video; participating international events; promoting partnerships with other organisations; and, activities to support the preservation of nuclear knowledge.

The Workshop endorsed the approach used by the RCARO for its promotional activities, the promoting of partnerships with the RCA and Nuclear Knowledge Preservation activities.

3.1. Promotional Activities

Ms.Soo Youn Hwang, Project Officer, Programme Division, RCARO gave a presentation entitled “Promotional Activities of RCARO”(Annex 7). This covered the following topics:

- Background
- RCARO Promotional Activities
 - Publication of RCA Success Stories
 - Operation of RCA Website
 - Updating RCA Promotional Video

- Participation in International Events

The Workshop noted difficulties being experienced by RCARO in particular communications with LCCs and NPCs and NRs for RCA Success Stories (SS). A solution to this problem could be the use of an expert who has demonstrated an ability to produce SSs that would be suitable for the target audience including the public. This would overcome problems in differences of writing ability and style that have been experienced with contributions from the LCCs and NPCs. In addition, it was suggested that there could be benefit from this expert attending the final Project Review Meeting to ensure that all the latest information could be incorporated in the SS.

Concerning the selection of projects to be written up as SSs, it was agreed that the responsibilities for this lie with the NRs and they should suggest and agree these at an NRM. The NRs should provide some outline of the aspects that support the project being identified as a success.

There was discussion on other mechanisms to reach and inform particular end-user groups, for example, Dr. Machi encouraged the use of executive management seminars, which had been used successfully in previous RCA projects. Dr. Easey suggested that the use of the social media networks might enable access to a new range of potential end-users and interested parties.

It was seen to be important for the RCA website to be accessible in all the MSs. As a mechanism to assist in increasing the visibility of the RCA website, the meeting suggested that a request be made for RCA MSs to have their National websites for their nuclear institutions to include a link to RCA website. Dr. Anhar noted that the MSs have the responsibility for contents of the RCA website.

Dr. Dias mentioned that he would like to have each project with a separate page on the website, which would then facilitate MSs access to information. Dr. LEE advised that this had been achieved.

Dr. Easey suggested that the RCARO should try to learn more about the people and organisations accessing the RCA website. It was suggested that this could be achieved by collecting detailed statistical information about the users. With such information it would be possible to concentrate efforts on follow up with particular key users such as large users and small users. This analysis would enable the RCARO to gain better understanding of the reasons for high use and low use and apply this information to assist in upgrading the RCARO's impact and outreach.

Dr. Easey suggested that the RCARO consider the use of technical experts, where possible, as part of the RCARO promotional team when they attend International Conferences. Dr. LEE mentioned that the RCARO budget was quite limited and it might not be possible to implement this suggestion for all visits. Dr. Easey suggested that MSs might be able to provide a suitable expert when the RCARO promotional team was attending an event in a MS.

3.2. Promoting Partnerships for RCA

Dr. In-Seok Oh, Head, Programme Division, RCARO, delivered a presentation entitled "Promoting Partnerships for RCA" (Annex 8) with a focus on:

- Background of the RCA Partnerships;
- Partnership Activities of the RCARO;
- Problems and Issues.

Following the general discussions, the Workshop noted the importance of building up and maintaining a database on donor organisations. This database would be potentially suitable for the support of actions to promote RCA projects and encourage additional extra budgetary contribution. Dr. Dias agreed that the RCARO should be involved with MSs when they are developing RCA projects designs which involve the potential collaboration with UN based organizations. This would facilitate on-going contact with these organisations and promote understanding of the central role of the RCARO in project partnerships. In addition, it would be beneficial to adopt a strategic approach by encouraging partnerships with other organisations through the promotion of the use of nuclear techniques that can help in the solution of problems rather than the promotion of the use of individual nuclear techniques. Dr. Dias advised the Workshop about his previous experience in looking at the possibilities of using RCA expertise as part of a large project being implemented in Sri Lanka. As result of this, he suggested that the RCARO should look into niche opportunities for the use of nuclear technologies that could contribute to the achievement of the objectives of a larger project.

Dr. Feng suggested that the RCA should assess whether there are additional potential donor organisations that might be potential partners. This group should be approached and additionally the RCARO should also include special organisations that are concerned with specific areas such as agriculture.

3.3 Preservation of Nuclear Knowledge

Ms. Hyunkyoung Jeon, Deputy Head, Programme Division, RCARO, made a presentation entitled “Preservation of Nuclear Knowledge” (Annex 9) and provided detailed information on the following programmes:

- Temp Staff Fellowship Programme
- RCARO/KAIST Master’s Degree Course
- RCARO/KAERI Regional Training Workshop
- Joint Training Programme with ARCCNM

Dr. Dias suggested that the RCARO should continue to use the Fellowship Programme to help MSs to gain a working knowledge of the RCA. He emphasised that importance of including the RCA Guidelines and Operating Rules and Midterm Strategy 2012-2017 as essential part of their learning experience. He went on to encourage the RCARO to give priority for fellowships to new MSs. The Workshop discussed the point raised in the presentation concerning the RCARO/KAIST Master’s Degree Course. As a number of participants mentioned, there appeared to be a number of options concerning the Master’s curriculum. However, it was not clear whether those undertaking courses under this RCARO programme were choosing options that were compatible with the RCA Medium Term Priorities. The RCARO was requested to examine the scope of the Master’s Degree Course to ensure that it was compatible with the RCA

Medium Term Priorities.

Concerning the RCARO/KAERI regional training workshops, the Workshop encouraged the RCARO to ensure that the subjects of the training were compatible with the RCA Medium Term Priorities and if necessary undertake fine tuning of the curriculum to bring it into line with the priorities.

The Workshop assessed the ARCCNM joint training programmes as meeting the RCA Medium Term Priorities and encouraged the RCARO to continue with them as they were a very useful contribution to the RCA programme.

Dr. Dias proposed that the RCARO should be a repository for materials used in RCA training courses.

3.4. Conclusions and Recommendations

The following are the agreed conclusions and recommendations from this session:

Conclusions: The RCARO has successfully implemented its mandates over the last ten years through its various programs including promotional activities such as: publication of RCA Success Stories and RCA brochures; establishing the RCA database and website; producing the RCA Promotional Video; participating international events; promoting partnerships with other organisations; and, activities to support the preservation of nuclear knowledge.

The Workshop endorsed the approach used by the RCARO for its promotional activities, the promoting of partnerships with the RCA and Nuclear Knowledge Preservation activities.

Recommendations to the RCARO

Promotional Activities of RCARO

- To prepare the RCA Success Stories based on the subjects that are proposed by the RCA MSs at an NRM.
- To facilitate the preparation of RCA Success Stories, the RCARO could support the recruitment of an expert.
- To try to achieve higher impact and recognition of RCA Success Stories with potential end-users through the use of social media networks.
- To encourage, where possible, the use of Executive Management Seminars to promote the social economic impacts of the RCA projects to end-user groups.
- To request RCA MSs to have their National websites for their nuclear institutions include a link to RCA website.
- To collect more detailed statistical information about the users of the RCA website so that it might be possible to concentrate efforts on follow up with large users and small users to gain better

understanding of the reasons for high use and low use and apply this information to assist in upgrading the RCARO's impact and outreach.

- To use technical experts, where possible, as part of the RCARO promotional team when they attend International Conferences.

Promoting Partnerships for RCA

- To build up and maintain a database on donor organisations which are potentially suitable for support of RCA projects.
- To be involved in the development of RCA projects designs which involve the potential collaboration with UN based organizations. This would facilitate on-going contact with these organisations and promote understanding of the central role of the RCARO in project partnerships.
- To adopt a strategic approach by encouraging partnerships with other organisations through the promotion of the use of nuclear techniques to solve problems rather than the promotion of the use of individual nuclear techniques.
- To assess whether there is an additional range of potential donor organisations that should be approached. This group could include specialist organisations that are concerned with specific areas.
- To look into niche opportunities for the use of nuclear technologies that could contribute to the achievement of the objectives of a larger project.

Nuclear knowledge preservation

- To continue to use the Fellowship Programme to help MSs to gain a working knowledge of the RCA, including the RCA GOR and MTS, and give priority to new MSs.
- To examine the scope of the Master's Degree Course to ensure that it was compatible with the RCA Medium Term Priorities.
- To ensure that the topics covered in the RCARO/KAERI regional training workshops were fine-tuned and were compatible with the RCA Medium Term Priorities.
- To continue with the ARCCNM joint training programmes.
- To be a repository for materials used in RCA training courses.

4. Session 2 – Future Directions to contribute to the Sustainable Development of RCA

Dr. Prinath Dias chaired Session 2.

At the request of Dr. Dias, the recommendations from 2010 Workshop were reviewed to ascertain their status.

Each of the recommendations was reviewed by the Workshop and only one required on-going attention. This related to the suggestion that the RCARO should consider making extended use of experts from MSs

to assist RCARO in its activities.

4.1. Future Directions of the RCARO

At the invitation of the Chair, Dr. In-Seok Oh gave a presentation entitled “Future Directions of the RCARO” (Annex 10), which dealt with:

- Introduction
- Strength
- Weakness
- Future Directions of RCARO

There was strong support from the Korean participants of the Workshop to the segment of Dr.OH’s presentation concerning the recognition of the legal status of the RCARO. Participants from Australia, China, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and Indonesia all gave illustrations of difficulties that were being experienced in their countries concerning the progress of this topic.

Dr. Dias commented that the current RCA Agreement had a number of areas where revision of the articles could be made if there were sufficient interest by the RCA MSs. This could be a good opportunity to deal with this matter. He suggested that the RCARO SAC should initiate appropriate actions that might help provide the RCARO with the legal status it requires to carry out its mandate effectively.

Dr. Easey suggested that the RCARO could help in the problem of turnover of senior staff if they instituted a succession plan to help in ensuring a smooth transition of responsibilities.

4.2. Future Role of RCARO and Expanded Participation of RCA Experts in the RCA/RCARO Activities

Dr. John Easey, former RCA Coordinator, gave a presentation entitled “A Future Role of the RCARO?” (Annex 11). He reviewed a number of aspects of the tasks that the RCARO could take on in the future.

- IAEA’s Support and Roles for the RCA Programme
- Potential Weakness and Vulnerabilities for MSs in the RCA structure
- Analysis of the RCA FP Contribution
- Current Roles & Responsibilities of the RCARO
- Examples of activities that could be undertaken by the RCARO
- Upgrading of an RCARO Initiative by including the participation of one or more RCA Experts

There was a general discussion on the major points of the presentation. Dr. Easey emphasised that he had developed the themes in his presentation as a result of the changes which were currently occurring in the role of RCA Focal Person. The changes he was proposing were trying to preserve and in cases

increase the level of administrative support to the MSs that had come previously from the RCA Coordinator / Focal Person.

Dr. Sueo Machi noted that the RCA had the strong linkages with the IAEA and that any changes in the relative roles and responsibilities needed to be handled carefully and there should be thorough discussions between the RCA and the IAEA to ensure that any changes would not cause any disruptions in relationship. He proposed that the RCARO SAC should initiate consultations with the IAEA. The main objective should be to reach an understanding with them about the IAEA and RCA FP's roles and responsibilities with regards to the RCA programme. This should then be followed up by trying to identify where the RCARO might take on additional responsibilities regarding the management of the RCA programme.

Dr. Dias provided comments concerning the changing role of the RCA Coordinator / Focal Person during his period in the Technical Cooperation Department. He also detailed some of the actions he had undertaken as part of the efforts to enhance MSs role in accepting more responsibilities for the RCA programme and playing an increasingly active role in decision making and the development of policies. He also noted that there were still areas where the MSs could be more active and further efforts should be made to increase their level of contribution.

4.3. Conclusions and Recommendations

The Workshop made the following conclusions and recommendations concerning matters raised during this session:

Review of the Recommendations from the 2010 Workshop

- The RCARO should consider making extended use of experts from MSs to assist RCARO in its activities.

Recommendations to the RCARO

Future Directions of RCARO

- The MSs should consider incorporating a revision related to the RCARO when considering any other future revisions of the RCA agreement.
- The RCARO SAC should initiate appropriate actions to provide the RCARO with the legal status it requires to carry out its mandate effectively.
- RCARO should have a succession plan to ensure smooth transfer of responsibilities of senior personnel.

Future Role of the RCARO

- The RCARO SAC should initiate consultations with the IAEA with the objective of reaching an understanding on the IAEA and RCA FP's roles and responsibilities to the RCA programme with the objective of identifying further responsibilities that the RCARO might undertake regarding managing the RCA programme.

5. Session 3– Current Issues

Dr. Dongxin Feng chaired Session 3.

This Session was concerned with the coordination of the thematic areas for the RCA projects and preparation of the RCA 40th anniversary exhibition. There was extensive general discussion on various points.

5.1. Coordination of the Thematic Areas for the RCA Projects

Dr. John Easey, former RCA Coordinator, delivered a presentation entitled “Future Plans for Coordinating the RCA Projects by Thematic Areas” (Annex 12).

- Thematic Programme Approach previously used by the RCA
- The current factors that are influencing a return to a Thematic Programme Approach
- Advantages, Disadvantages and Expected Effectiveness of Thematic Programme Approach

There were a number of questions concerning the presentation. Because of some confusion regarding the Thematic Programme Approach and the role that the RCARO could undertake, Dr. Easey provided a detailed explanation of the background. He said that the motivation for his presentation was caused by the changes to the nature of the TC programme in 2014/2015 that was being proposed by the IAEA in early 2012. Of particular concern had been the statement in the Guidelines issued by the IAEA that each regional programme was going to be limited to only 10 to 15 projects as part of a move to increase the impact of TC projects.

He reminded the Workshop that the TC Asia Pacific Division had three types of regional projects; those supporting the RCA programme, those supporting the ARASIA programme and the non-Agreement projects. He had concluded that it was unlikely that the RCA would have more than five projects and so he set about devising a strategy that would enable the RCA to preserve the 12 projects that would be continuing from the 2012/2013 programme in to 2014 and the 5 that would go into 2015. In addition he also wanted this strategy to be able to introduce some additional projects being proposed for 2014/2015 by the MSs. His solution had been to consolidate all the projects into the four thematic areas which would then be compatible with the IAEA Guideline requirements on project numbers.

This proposal had been considered by the RCA NRM in Beijing and there was support from a number of delegations. However there was not a consensus to support this move for the 2014/2015 programme. Nevertheless there was strong support from the NRM for the move to thematic programming and in particular whether the RCARO could play a part in Thematic Sector coordination and management.

Dr. Machi noted that the IAEA Scientific Fora looked at things from a thematic perspective and that the RCA should look at this approach as a template for any moves to adopt a thematic programme approach.

Dr Mun-Ki Lee agreed with the basic concept of undertaking the thematic sector coordination but would need to examine the exact nature of the role that the RCARO would be asked to perform. He noted that the RCARO had very limited capacity to have any involvement in any technical matters related to the project. Dr Easey identified a number of very important areas where the RCARO could provide management and coordination support for a thematic project and also noted that involvement in the technical aspect would not be a requirement.

5.2. Preparation of the RCA 40th Anniversary Exhibition

Ms. Hyunkyoung Jeon, Deputy Head, Programme Division, RCARO, made a presentation entitled “Exhibition of the 40th Anniversary of RCA” (Annex 13), which dealt with:

- Outline of the Exhibition
- Design Sketch of the Exhibition space
- Suggestions of options for the exhibition posters

The Workshop was briefed on the actions undertaken by the RCARO and the RCA Chair. They all have had difficulties in getting responses from the LCCs and NRs. The Workshop suggested that the RCARO should contact the related MSs stakeholders again and request that they provide information on sample products that they can make available as well as some input on the contents to be displayed on the panels.

5.3. Conclusions and Recommendations

The following conclusions and recommendations were agreed by the Workshop:

Conclusions:

The Workshop recognised with appreciation the progress made by RCARO in the preparation of the 40th Anniversary of RCA exhibition and noted that there had been a lack of response from those contacted in the MSs concerning the preparation of the exhibition.

Recommendations to the RCARO

- To consider providing project management support for the RCA programme if the thematic approach is adopted in the future.
- To contact the related MSs stakeholders again and request that they provide information on sample products that they can make available as well as some input on the contents materials to be displayed on the panels.

In addition to the conclusions and recommendations detailed above, the Workshop recommended that the RCARO report on the status of the implementation of the recommendations made at this Workshop so that these can be reviewed at future Workshop.

6. Closing

The Dir-RCARO thanked the participating SAC members, experts, and his staff for their efforts in achieving a very successful outcome from this Workshop, and he wished everyone a safe homeward journey and looked forward to continuing contact and cooperation.

RCARO 2013 Work Plan

	Target	Activities	Milestone				Performance Indicators
			QT 1	QT 2	QT 3	QT 4	
1	Increasing the awareness of RCA	1.1 Publicity activities for increasing RCA's awareness					1.1.1 Publication of a revised RCA brochure
		1.2 Enhanced RCA information service through the RCA website					1.2.1 Updating data on RCA and RCA projects
							1.2.2 Updating data on RCA stakeholders/end-users by Member States
		1.3 Participation in regional/international events and support for the promotion of RCA activities					1.3.1 Presentation and exhibition on RCA/RCARO activities to target audiences
							1.3.2 Support the RCA experts for increasing awareness and promotion of RCA
2	Implementation of RCA/UNDP partnership project on nuclear imaging technology	2.1 Reporting to the 35 th NRM					2.1.1 Reporting of the achievements and outputs of the RCA/UNDP project
		2.2 Establishment of an expert network					2.2.1 Creation of a new corner on the RCA website
		2.3 Conducting the basic training on SPECT/PET and on-site regional training course					2.3.1 Holding of the training courses for enhancement of basic capacity of SPECT/PET imaging science and technology
		2.4 Monitoring and submission of Progress/final report and financial reports					2.4.1 Preparation and submission of the progress/final report and financial reports to UNDP and UNOPS

		2.5 Final review meeting and evaluation of the project				■	2.5.1 Hosting a final review meeting to review and evaluate the performance of the project
3	Implementation of RCA/UNDP partnership project on electron beam applications	3.1 Holding a kick-off meeting		■			3.1.1 Holding a kick-off meeting to identify status and needs of participating countries, and to discuss and develop future work plan of the project
		3.2 Conducting a regional training courses			■		3.2.1 Conducting a regional training courses of electron beam applications in industry and environment
		3.3 Monitoring and submission of Progress/annual and financial reports	■	■	■	■	3.3.1 Preparation and submission of the progress/annual report and financial reports to UNDP and UNOPS
		3.4 Annual review meeting and evaluation of the project				■	3.4.1 Hosting a annual review meeting to review and evaluate the performance of the project
4	Preservation of nuclear knowledge	4.1 RCARO/KAIST Nuclear Engineering Master's Degree Course	■	■	■	■	4.1.1 Supporting the RCARO/KAIST Master's Degree Course
		4.2 Support to the RCARO/ARCCNM training course				■	4.2.1 Holding of the RCARO/ARCCNM training course
		4.3 RCARO/KAERI regional training Workshop				■	4.3.1 Implementation of the RCARO/KAERI regional training workshop
		4.4 Supporting the establishment of educational/training infrastructure of Member States		■	■	■	4.4.1 Supporting the establishment of educational/training infrastructure of Member States by providing ICT equipment

5	Increased interaction between Member States and RCARO	5.1 Increased participation of Member States in RCARO activities					5.1.1 Inviting 3-4 temporary staff from the Member States to RCARO
		5.2 Holding a workshop on enhancing RCARO interactions with Member States					5.2.1 Holding a workshop to review RCARO activities and work plan including interaction with Member States
		5.3 Participation in the RCA policy related meetings					5.3.1 Participation in the 35 th NRM, 42 nd GCM
		5.4 Participation in the RCA project design meeting					5.4.1 Participation in the regional meeting on project design of RCA proposed concepts for TCP 2014-15
		5.5 Participation in the FNCA Coordinators Meeting					5.5.1 Participation in the 14 th FNCA Coordinators Meeting
		5.6 Operation of a committee for the selection and appointment of the RCARO Director					5.6.1 Operation of a committee for the selection and appointment of the RCARO Director
		5.7 Extra-budgetary contribution of RCARO to the IAEA					5.7.1 EB contribution of RCARO to the IAEA

RCARO 2013 Work Plan

1. Increasing the awareness of RCA

1.1 Publicity activities for increasing RCA's awareness

1.1.1 Publication of a revised RCA brochure

To update the RCA and its activities, a revised brochure will be published in 2013. It will be the fifth of its kind published by RCARO, since the first one in 2003.

A draft, containing general information on RCA, projects, achievements, will be prepared in consultation with the RCA experts and then circulated to the Member States for their comments. Reflecting their comments, it will be submitted to the 42nd GCM for approval by the Member States.

Upon approval by the Member States, a revised brochure will be published and distributed to the 36th NRM and the copies will be further handed out for promotional uses during regional and international events.

1.2 Enhanced RCA information service through the RCA Website

RCARO will continue its efforts to further enhance its website operation in 2013, with a view to making it a hub for an information flow within the RCA community.

1.2.1 Updating data on RCA and RCA projects

RCARO will continue to renew its efforts to further update the data on RCA and its activities: meetings, projects, and news.

RCARO will enhance, among others, its interactions among end-users and stakeholders of the RCA Member States through the website, in particular, on matters regarding the information exchange and utilization.

1.2.2 Updating data on RCA stakeholders and end-users by Member States

In accordance with RCARO's efforts to update the database on the RCA stakeholders and end-users, the Member States are required to participate in the provision of data on relevant personnel in respective Member States. Member States' advices on effective

use of the database are requested.

1.3 Participation in regional/international events and support for the promotion of RCA activities

RCARO will make further efforts to fulfill its mandate by promoting RCA to target audiences at appropriate occasions through presentations and exhibitions as well as providing support to RCA experts to increase the awareness and promote RCA.

1.3.1. Presentation and exhibition on RCA/RCARO activities to target audiences

RCARO will continue to present the RCA/RCARO activities to target audiences including relevant end-users to promote a better understanding about the RCA activities related to the nuclear science and technology application. Presentations will be made at some relevant occasions and meetings including the RCA events in the region.

RCARO will also continue to participate in regional and international events to demonstrate the RCA's capabilities and potentials to regional and international communities.

These are the events from the survey conducted by RCARO which could be of interest to the RCA:

- 1) 7th International symposium on Naturally Occurring Radioactive Material (norm II), April 22-26, Beijing, China
- 2) International Conference on Nuclear Science and Technology (ICNST 2013) May 29-31, Tokyo, Japan
- 3) International Conference on the Sources, Effects and Risks of Ionizing Radiation, October 10-11, Bali, Indonesia

A survey among the Member States will be also conducted by RCARO to reflect their inputs for the events to participate and promote RCA. RCARO will then participate in the appropriate events which are identified to be effective for promotional use of RCA.

1.3.2. Support the RCA experts for increasing the awareness and promotion of RCA

RCARO has provided support for RCA experts in their activities that could enhance the RCA's awareness and the promotion of RCA activities, such as participation in international meetings. In 2013, RCARO will continue to provide its assistance to some selected RCA experts for participation in international meetings and promotional activities for RCA.

2. Implementation of RCA/ UNDP partnership project on nuclear imaging technology

2.1 Reporting at the 35th NRM

As in the 34th NRM, RCARO will report the progress of the project in 2012 and the work plan for 2013 at the 35th NRM.

2.2 Establishment of an expert network

As part of the work plan of the project in 2013, a new corner on the RCA website will be created for expert networking, discussion forum and sharing information prior to the 2013 Regional Training Courses. NPCs will be given IDs to post national activities such as teaching materials freely.

2.3 Conducting the basic training on SPECT/PET and on-site regional training course

As decided at the annual review meeting in 2012, the one-week basic training on SPECT/PET and two-week on-site regional training course will be consecutively held between 17 June and 5 July in Korea. Two new trainees experienced in Nuclear Medicine from each participating Member State will be invited to the training courses.

The basic training on SPECT/PET will provide lectures on the basic pathophysiology and the principles of SPECT/PET, radiopharmaceutical production, image acquisition and reconstruction and image analysis and interpretation, while the on-site regional training will provide practice of neurochemistry imaging technologies and molecular oncologic imaging technologies linked with pathophysiology and principles of SPECT/PET, radiopharmaceutical production.

2.4 Monitoring and submission of the progress/final and financial reports

RCARO will take the responsibility of overall management of the project through monitoring and submitting the progress/final reports for successful implementation. Conforming to the UNDP programming manual, progress/final and financial reports of the project will be prepared and submitted to UNDP and UNOPS.

2.5 Final review meeting and evaluation of the project

RCARO will hold the final review meeting, inviting representatives of the participating Member States, IAEA and relevant stakeholders, to review and evaluate the performance of the project for three years.

3. Implementation of RCA/UNDP partnership project on Electron Beam(EB) Applications

RCARO's proposal of the RCA/UNDP partnership project was selected by UNDP: Electron beam applications for value addition to food and industrial products and degradation of environmental pollutants in the Asia-Pacific region. The total funding amount is \$450,000 with \$300,000 and \$150,000 contributed by UNDP and RCARO, respectively, for three years starting from 2013. 16 RCA Member States and 1 Non RCA Member State, i.e. Australia, China, India, Indonesia, Korea, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, New Zealand, Pakistan, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Vietnam, and Cambodia will participate in the project.

3.1 Holding a kick-off meeting

RCARO will hold a kick-off meeting, inviting representatives of the participating Member States and related stakeholders to identify status and needs of participating countries, and to discuss and establish future work plan of the project. The specific date and venue of the event will be announced.

3.2 Conducting a regional training course

To enhance the level of technology and knowledge and capability of human resources in the Asia-Pacific region in the application of EB in the field of industry and environment, a regional training course will be held in Korea to provide the participants with the basic

knowledge and technology by means of practical demonstration. The specific date and venue will be decided during the kick-off meeting.

3.3 Monitoring and submission of the progress/annual and financial reports

RCARO will assume the responsibility of overall management of the project through monitoring and submitting the progress report for successful implementation. Conforming to the UNDP programming manual, progress/annual and financial reports of the project will be prepared and submitted to UNDP and UNOPS every six months.

3.4 Annual review meeting and evaluation of the project

The annual review meeting will be convened by RCARO, inviting representatives of the participating Member States and related stakeholders to review and evaluate the project implementation in 2013 and discuss 2014 work plan.

4. Preservation of nuclear knowledge

4.1 RCARO/KAIST Nuclear Engineering Master's Degree Course

The nuclear knowledge preservation programme was initiated by RCARO in cooperation with the Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (KAIST) for Nuclear Engineering Master's Degree Course. As carried out in the past years, recruiting students from the Member States for the 2013 spring and fall semesters will be conducted in due course.

4.2 RCARO/ARCCNM training course

RCARO will continue its support for the RCARO/ARCCNM training course in 2013.

4.3 RCARO/KAERI regional training workshop

RCARO will host a regional training workshop on radiation applications technology in October or November 2013 in cooperation with KAERI. RCA Member States are requested to recommend appropriate candidates for the workshop.

4.4 Supporting the establishment of educational/training infrastructure of Member States by providing ICT equipment

As a pilot project for 2 or 3 years, RCARO will support the establishment of educational/ training infrastructure of Member States by providing ICT equipment such as PC or laptops considering the local situation and needs in order to help build capacity for the development of the nuclear science and technology.

The beneficiaries of MS will be selected through the National RCA Representatives, and the details such as selection criteria and procedure will be informed before the 35th NRM to be held in March 2013 in Myanmar.

The future plans of this pilot project will be decided through the performance review of the project upon the completion of the project.

5. Increased Interaction between Member States and RCARO

5.1 Increased participation of Member States in RCARO activities

RCARO will select 3~4 temporary staff from the Member States to work in RCARO in 2013. Their duties include assisting with the updating of stakeholder/end-user database; information collection on regional and international event; and the implementation of RCA/UNDP partnership projects. RCARO considers extending the duty period of the temporary staff who successfully performed their duties in RCARO.

5.2 Holding a workshop on enhancing RCARO interactions with Member States

RCARO will host a workshop to discuss ways to enhance interactions among RCARO and the Member States and to strengthen the functional role of RCARO in order to accommodate the needs of Member States more effectively. The workshop will invite mainly temporary staff who previously worked at RCARO to review and discuss the roles of RCARO and the Member States. The specific date and venue of the event is to be announced.

5.3 Participation in the RCA policy meetings

RCARO will participate in the RCA policy meetings, including the 35th NRM in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar on 19-23 March and the 42nd GCM in Vienna in September and make presentations on the RCARO activities. RCARO will also provide assistance to the

operation of RCARO SAC meetings as a secretariat.

5.4 Participation in the RCA project design meeting

Having been recommended by the 39th GCM in 2010 to develop capabilities in project design and management, RCARO will participate in the regional meeting on project design of RCA proposed concepts for TCP 2014-15 to be held on 18-22 February in Vienna as an observer.

5.5 Participation in the 14th FNCA Coordinators Meeting

On behalf of RCA, RCARO will participate in the 14th FNCA Coordinators Meeting to be held in March 2013 in Japan to discuss cooperative matters between RCA and FNCA.

5.6 Operation of the committee for the selection and appointment of the RCARO Director

According to the time frame endorsed at the 41st GCM, the vacancy announcement was made in early October 2012 and it is to be open till 15 January 2013. The selection committee was also duly constituted in November 2012 and is going to be held in February 2013 to select the most suitable candidate(s) and recommend to the 16th SAC, so that the 35th NRM could eventually appoint a new Director.

5.7 Extra-Budgetary(EB) contribution of RCARO to the IAEA

An EB contribution by RCARO and the ROK Government will continue in 2013 to support the RCA projects in need of financial support and is subject to the budget availability of RCARO.